GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2747
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2001
GAIL AGREEMENT WITH SHELL INTERNATIONAL
A. VENKATESH NAIK;RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India Limited has signed an MoU with Shell International Gas;

(b) if so, the details of the fields incorporated in the MoU;

(c) the details of the expansion of business likely to take place after the implementation of MoU;

(d) the time by which MoU is likely to be implemented; and

(e) the targets fixed for exploration during the current year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MI OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) GAIL has signed a Principles of Cooperation (PoC) with Shell International Gas Limited on 4th July, 2000 and an amendment to the PoC on 8th November, 2001.

(b) The PoC inter-alia involves joint evaluation of various potential areas/fields of cooperation, namely, import of liquefied natural gas (LNG) development of gas transmission and distribution pipelines for marketing of the re-gasified LNG, import and sale of gas from Bangladesh, exploration and production, gas importation opportunities from Iran, exploration and exploitation of off-shore hydrates, development of integrated gas to power opportunities and training of personnel etc.

(c) & (d) In pursuance of the PoC, the two companies have evaluated exploration and production opportunities in India, offshore hydrates, Iran LNG project, development of LNG facilities and marketing of re-gassified LNGThe joint evaluation is a continuous process. Although, no project has so far been identified for implementation as a consortium, the PoC has been extended till November, 2002 to continue the joint evaluation.

(e) There is no target for exploration during the current year.